Sunday, April 26th: Sunday of the Myrrh Bearing Women & Sts. Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus
40 Day Memorial Service for Ida Lavin
5 Year Memorial Service for Sophie Hallal

Saturday, May 2nd: 8:00 P.M.-1:00 A.M.- Spring Haffle (see Fr. Elie for tickets)

Sunday, May 3rd: Sunday of the Paralytic
The Antiochian Women NAB Project Luncheon at the Parish Center following Liturgy

Monday, May 4th: 7:00 P.M.– Ladies Meeting

Saturday, May 9th: 5:00 P.M.– Arabic Liturgy (*note date change*)

Sunday, May 10th: Sunday of the Samaritan Woman

Tuesday, May 12th: 7:00-10:00 P.M.- Parish Council Meeting at the Parish Center

Sunday, May 17th: Sunday of the Blind Man


Monday, May 25th: Memorial Day

Sunday, May 31st: Sunday of PENTECOST
A Note Regarding Holy Communion:
Since we understand Communion to mean that we have all things in common, sharing an identical faith, only those who are members of the Orthodox Church and who have prepared themselves through prayer, fasting, and recent confession may participate in Holy Communion. We invite all, however, to partake of the blessed bread which is distributed at the dismissal. Confessions are heard by special appointment. The Eucharistic fast begins at midnight on Saturday and ends with the receiving of Holy Communion. Please see Fr. Elie if you have any questions or for inquiries on how to become a full member of the Church.

Parish Council 2015:
President: Joe Samra III (Fellowship)
Vice-President: Salwa Khoury (Ladies Society)
Secretary: Cindy Hayes
Treasurer: Fadia Kabak
Council Members: Charles Abosamra, Emad Amirhom, Edward Ayoub, Scott Barnes, Cory Dupont, Janice Hallal (Choir), Lorice Hallal, Steven Kilsy Jr., Holly Lazieh, Jamie Mitri, Walid Nakhoul, Elmer Stanley (Church School)

**Please feel free to contact Joe Samra III (401) 334-0310 / joesamra@gmail.com or any member of the Parish Council with any questions or concerns**

Orthodox Vocabulary

Doctrine of Immortality
In pre-Christian times, the Greeks, especially, reasoned out a doctrine of immortality. They showed an essential connection of the soul with the principles governing reasoning and they took both to be eternal. Plato inferred from this belief in the immortality of the soul before birth as well as its survival after death. On the other hand the constant striving of the virtuous man after the eternally valid principles of morality was thought to point to the same belief Plato and other Greek philosophers dwelt on the fact that matter imposes limitations on the soul. The body was believed to be a prison-house, from which death released the soul into a fuller and more perfect existence. The doctrine of immortality in Christianity arose from the fact of Christ’s Resurrection. Thus, man’s highest destiny was more than the mere survival of an immortal soul. Rather, it was a life of continued union with the risen Christ which reached its completion only by the reunion of body and soul after death. St. Paul sketches in his First Epistle to the Corinthians and elsewhere the essence of this Christian belief: The Fathers explain the hope of immortality only in relation with the redemptive work of Christ. The Fall of Adam had brought death and it was only through the Second Adam (Christ) that life was regained (St. Athanasios, Gregory of Nyssa.) Later theological developments on the concept of immortality reached the stage by which the resurrection of the body was necessary for a full human life in the world to come; else, a disembodied soul was no true being.

Because of the Resurrection of Christ, because of His victory over death, men have become, continue to become, and will continue becoming Christians. The entire history of Christianity is nothing other than the history of a unique miracle, namely, the Resurrection of Christ, which is unbrokenly threaded through the hearts of Christians from one day to the next, from year to year, across the centuries, until the dreaded judgment.

~St. Justin Popovich
When Thou didst submit Thyself unto death, O Thou deathless and immortal One, then Thou didst destroy hell with Thy Godly power. And when Thou didst raise the dead from beneath the earth, all the powers of Heaven did cry aloud unto Thee: O Christ, Thou giver of life, glory to Thee.

The pious Joseph, having brought down Thy pure body from the Tree, wrapped it in fine linen, embalmed it with ointment, provided for it, and laid it in a new tomb. But Thou didst verily rise after three days, O Lord, granting the world Great Mercy.

Verily, the angel came to the tomb and said to the ointment-bearing women, the ointment is meet for the dead, but Christ is shown to be remote from corruption. But cry ye: The Lord is risen, granting the world the Great Mercy.

In giving birth, Thou didst keep Thy virginity and in thy repose, Thou didst not forsake the world, O Theotokos, for Thou art the mother of life, and Thou didst pass over into life; and through thy intercession from death Thou dost redeem our souls.

O Immortal One, when Thou didst descend into the tomb, Thou didst destroy the power of Hades; and Thou didst rise victorious, O Christ God. Thou hast said to the ointment-bearing women: Rejoice! And Thou gavest peace to Thy Disciples, O Bestower of Resurrection to those Who had fallen.

CHRIST IS RISEN, TRULY HE IS RISEN!
Sunday, April 26, 2015
Sunday of the Myrrh Bearing Women and Sts. Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus

Tone:2 Eothinon: 4

Troparion of the Resurrection, Tone 2
When Thou didst submit Thyself unto death, O Thou deathless and immortal One, then Thou didst destroy hell with Thy Godly power. And when Thou didst raise the dead from beneath the earth, all the powers of Heaven did cry aloud unto Thee: O Christ, Thou giver of life, glory to Thee.

Troparion of Joseph of Arimathea, Tone 2
The pious Joseph, having brought down Thy pure body from the Tree, wrapped it in fine linen, embalmed it with ointment, provided for it, and laid it in a new tomb. But Thou didst verily rise after three days, O Lord, granting the world Great Mercy.

Troparion of Myrrh-Bearing Women, Tone 8
Verily, the angel came to the tomb and said to the ointment-bearing women, the ointment is meet for the dead, but Christ is shown to be remote from corruption. But cry ye: The Lord is risen, granting the world the Great Mercy.

Troparion of the Dormition, Tone 1
In giving birth, Thou didst keep Thy virginity and in thy repose, Thou didst not forsake the world, O Theotokos, for Thou art the mother of life, and Thou didst pass over into life; and through thy intercession from death Thou dost redeem our souls.

Kontakion of Pascha, Tone 8
O Immortal One, when Thou didst descend into the tomb, Thou didst destroy the power of Hades; and Thou didst rise victorious, O Christ God. Thou hast said to the ointment-bearing women: Rejoice! And Thou gavest peace to Thy Disciples, O Bestower of Resurrection to those Who had fallen.
The Epistle
Acts 6:1-7

Prokeimenon: The Lord is my strength and my song.
Verse: The Lord has chastened me sorely.

The reading is from the Acts of the Apostles.

In those days, when the disciples were increasing in number, the Hellenists murmured against the Hebrews because their widows were neglected in the daily distribution. And the twelve summoned the body of the disciples and said, "It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. Therefore, brethren, pick up from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may appoint to this duty. But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." And what they said pleased the whole multitude, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochoros, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaos, a proselyte of Antioch. These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands upon them.

The Gospel
Mark 15:43-16:8

At that time, Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the council who was also himself looking for the kingdom of God, took courage and went to Pilate, and asked for the body of Jesus. And Pilate wondered if he were already dead; and summoning the centurion, he asked him whether he was already dead. And when he learned from the centurion that he was dead, he granted the body to Joseph. And he bought a linen shroud, and taking him down, wrapped him in the linen shroud, and laid him in a tomb which had been hewn out of the rock; and he rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Jesus saw where he was laid. And when the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome, bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week they went to the tomb when the sun had risen. And they were saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the door of the tomb?" And looking up they saw that the stone was rolled back; for it was very large. And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe; and they were amazed. And he said to them, "Do not be amazed; you seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen, he is not here; see the place where they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him, as he told you." And they went out and fled from the tomb; for trembling and astonishment had come upon them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.
The Parish Council has decided to implement a new system to organize our coffee hours. There are two ways to handle this: when a couple, family, or an individual decides to sponsor the coffee hour, you may do it on your own which entails purchasing the pastry & juice, making the coffee, setting up the table, and cleaning up. The second option is to donate $75.00 to the church so that a Parish Council member will handle the coffee hour on your behalf.

If you would like to sponsor a coffee hour, please call the church office and speak with Sheryl.

Please make check to St. Mary Church for coffee sponsorship and earmark “Coffee Hour”.

Date | Sponsored by | Sponsored for
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April 26th | Fred Hallal & Family | Sophie Hallal (5 years)
May 3rd | NAB Project Luncheon | Ladies Society
May 10th* | Dr. Zeyad & Norma Morcos | Marie Haddad (80th Birthday)
May 17th | Open for sponsorship | 
May 24th | The Hallal Family | John Hallal (40 day)
May 31st | not available | 
June 7th | The Samra Family | Joseph Samra Sr. (50 years)
June 14th | Open for sponsorship | Parish Life Conference
June 21st | No Coffee Hour | 
June 28th | Open for sponsorship | 
July 5th | Open for sponsorship | 
July 12th | Open for sponsorship | 
July 19th | Dr. Zeyad & Norma Morcos | Elias Morcos (son)
July 26th | Open for sponsorship | 
August 2nd | Open for sponsorship | 
August 9th | Open for sponsorship | 
August 16th | Open for sponsorship | 
August 23rd | Open for sponsorship | 
August 30th | Open for sponsorship | 
September 6th | Open for sponsorship | 
September 13th | Open for sponsorship | 
September 20th | Open for sponsorship | 

A Forty-Day Memorial Service for the servant of God Ida Lavin is being offered by The Salhany Family.

*May God grant her peace and may her memory be eternal*

A Five Year Memorial Service for the servant of God Sophie Hallal is being offered by Fred Hallal & Family.

*May God grant her peace and may her memory be eternal*

PRAYERS ARE BEING OFFERED FOR GOOD HEALTH AND BLESSING OF:

April Gentes Robert
Offered by: George & Sandra Matook

Mark Hashway
Offered by: Elaine Wilbur

Jacob Khoury
Fred Hallal & Family
Salhany Family
Offered by: Nabil & Salwa Khoury

Fred Hallal
Offered by: Lorraine Hallal

Fred Hallal & Family
The Salhany Family
Jacob Khoury
Offered by: Elaine Swistak

Lorna Hallal & Family
Al & Vicki Hallal
Fred Hallal
Adele & Fred Shwaery
Offered by: Ron & Janice Hallal
Fee schedule for the use of the Sanctuary for the following services:

**Baptism:**
- Member: $100  
- Non-Member: $200  
  (Plus offering to clergy & cost of choir)

**Wedding:**
- Member: $300  
- Non-Member: $600

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**ONLINE BULLETIN**

The Bulletin is available online on our website at:

http://stmarypawtucket.org

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**PRAYERS ARE BEING OFFERED FOR GOOD HEALTH AND BLESSING OF:**

Donald, Daniel & Sarah Hayes  
Offered by: Cindy Hayes

Mary Massiwer

Maureen, Paul & Mary Gurghigian

Mary, Bill, Bill Jr & Jon Franklin

Diane Andrew & Paul Bernier

Laura, Jim & Nicole Arrighi

John & Patricia Massiwer & Danielle Jordan

Fred Hallal & Paula Hallal

Holly, Jordan & Alexander Lazieh & Bob Dessaint

Cheryl, Anthony, Emma & Evan Nasser

Nancy, Dimetrios, Steven & Nicholas Sterpis

Diana Hashway

Lil Massiwer

Offered by: Cindy Hayes & Children

William Salhany

Offered by: Barbara & George Moussall & Family

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**Hallal Family**

Jacob Khoury  
Offered by: Elaine Agaty  
Nora Abdelahad

Fred Hallal & Family

Offered by: George & Sandra Mateok

Fred Hallal & Family

Salhany Family

Offered by: Elaine Gauthier

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**Save the Date!**

Go to www.stmarypawtucket.org  
for registration & more information!

Join us for family fun, heart-warming fellowship and wonderful opportunities for spiritual growth in the “Creative Capital”!

**Highlights include:**
- Bible Bowl
- Oratorical Contest
- Game Night
- Grand Huli

Home of Multisensory Majesty of WaterFire • Low Ticket Rates & much more!

**Registration Giveaway!**
Register for the conference before May 1st, 2015 to be entered into a drawing to win two Huli tickets at the 2015 National Convention in Boston!

**Book your room:**
- There are a limited number of rooms, so book early!
  - The Providence Marriott
  - 1 G_dims Street, Providence, RI

Special Conference Rate of $159 a night
For reservations call: 866-807-2171 & Reference “Parish Life Conference”
Parish Life Conference - 2015

Sponsorship forms are available in the Church Hall. The deadline for participation is May 25, 2015. For further information, please contact Dr. Nabil Khoury at (401) 434-8877 or Dr. Joseph J. Samra at (401) 334-2465 or Fr. Elie.

**SAVE THE DATE**

**note date change**

The Antiochian Women are hosting a luncheon following Liturgy on May 3rd to benefit their NAB Project.

More information to follow.

Diocese of N.E. upcoming events

- **June 18th-21st** – St. Mary Church, Pawtucket: Hosting 2015 Parish Life Conference
- **July 20th-26th** – St. Mary Church, Cambridge, MA: Hosting 52nd Archdiocesan Convention, Boston, MA

**PRAYERS ARE BEING OFFERED IN LOVING MEMORY OF:**

- Fred Hashway Jr.
- Offered by: Elaine Wilbur
- Ida Lavin
- Offered by: John Salhany
- Sophie Hallal
- Offered by: Fred Hallal
  - Paula Hallal
  - Cheryl & Anthony Nassaney & Family
  - Nancy & Dimitrios Sterpis & Sons
- Sophie Hallal
- Ida Lavin
- Offered by: Holly Lazieh & Sons & Bob Dessaint
- Sophie Hallal
- Ida Lavin
- Offered by: Nabil & Salwa Khoury
- Sophie Hallal
- Ida Lavin
- Offered by: Lorice Hallal
- Ida Lavin
- Sophie Hallal
- Offered by: Joe & Marlene Samra
- George & Nora David
- Offered by: The David Family
- Sophie Hallal
- Ida Lavin
- Offered by: Elaine Swistak
- Ida Lavin
- Offered by: Margaret Haley
- Ida Lavin
- Sophie Hallal
- Offered by: Joe & Marlene Samra
- Ida Lavin
- Sophie Hallal
- Offered by: Ron & Janice Hallal
- Ida Lavin
- Fred Salhany
- Robert Salhay
- Offered by: Virginia Salhany
- Sophie Hallal
- Sarah, George, Abraham & Emile Massiwer
- John Massiwer
- Offered by: Lily Massiwer
- Sophie Hallal
- Sarah & George Massiwer
- John A. Massiwer
- Moses Lazieh
- John Hallal
- Ida Lavin
- Offered by: Mary Massiwer & Family
- Ida Lavin
- Sophie Hallal
- Offered by: Albert & Victoria Hallal
- Ida Lavin
- Offered by: Bill & Susan Salhany & Family
- Don Hayes
- John Massiwer
- Tom Andrew
- Sophie Hallal
- Moses Lazieh
- George, Sarah, Abraham & Emile Massiwer
- Louis Hashway
- Ida Lavin
- Jim Williamson
- Offered by: Cindy Hayes & Children
- Mrs. Ida (Salhany) Lavin
- Offered by: Mrs. Sonja (Avedisian) Pollard
**Cemetery Plots**

If you wish to purchase a cemetery plot at Walnut Hill Cemetery, the cost is $1,000. Please contact Ed Ayoub for more information or to purchase a plot.

**Assessment Fee**

The St. Mary Parish Council wishes to kindly remind the Faithful to send in their Archdiocese Assessment of $125 made out to St. Mary Church. Please help us to be able to meet our obligations to the Archdiocese.

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**St. Mary Parish Bookstore**

Many beautiful Orthodox religious items are available from the St. Mary Parish bookstore and display case. These include a new collection of Icons, Christmas and greeting cards, Liturgical music CD’s, prayer books, coloring books, Crosses and Orthodox Bibles. These make wonderful gifts and reflect the *Tradition of our Orthodox Faith*. All proceeds benefit the general fund of the Church. Please see Fr. Elie if you wish to purchase these gifts.

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**Coffee Hour**

Coffee Hour is offered by Fred Hallal & Family in memory of Sophie Hallal (5 years). Coffee hour will be held in the Church Hall after Liturgy.

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**Church News & Organization Activities**

**St. Mary Liturgical Choir**

The St. Mary Liturgical Choir welcomes new members to join its Ministry of Sacred Music. Anyone interested in joining the choir (whatever their level of musical experience) are asked to contact the choir director Dawn Boukari @ (401) 465-8909 or email her: daboukari@gmail.com

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**St. Mary Church School News**

**Attention All Parents:** Please bring your children to the Liturgy before Church School. Church School starts every Sunday following communion (Approx. 11:15am).

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**Bulletin Submissions**

*Please help us provide a quality weekly bulletin by submitting all prayer requests and announcements to the church office by Noon on Wednesdays. Any requests received after this time will be in the following week’s bulletin. Thank you for your cooperation.*